

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOGADI 02006 290946Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 /028 W
-----002056 300024Z /13

R 290920Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6841
INFO COMIDEASTFOR
USS VREELAND
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
CNO WASHDC
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK
SECDEF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 2006

NAIROBI PLS PASS ASST SEC MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OCLR, US, SO
SUBJ: VREELAND VISIT

1. THE VREELAND VISIT WENT OFF WITHOUT A HITCH. THE SOMALIS COULDN'T HAVE BEEN MORE COOPERATIVE, NOR COULD THE U.S. NAVY HAVE CHOSEN AN ABLER, MORE POLITICALLY ASTUTE COMMANDER TO BE AN INSTRUMENT OF U.S. POLICY.
 2. THE SOMALIS MADE IT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT THEY APPRECIATED THE POLLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE VISIT AND THAT THEY WOULD WELCOME MORE SUCH VISITS BY U.S.W NAVAL VESSELS. THE COMMANDER OF THE SOMALI NAVY MADE THIS POINT REPEATEDLY.
 3. COMMANDER GILL, HIS OFFICERS AND CREW ARE ESPECIALLY TO BE COMMENDED FOR THEIR DIGNITY, BEARING AND SENSITIVITY
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TO THE POLITICS OF THE SITUATION HERE. COMMANDER GILL, ACUTELY AWARE OF THE POLITICAL CONTEXT OF THE VISIT, CONDUCTED HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH SENIOR SOMALI OFFICIALS WITH THE SKILL OF A SEASONED AND ACCOMPLISHED FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER. A TRULY IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCE BY AN OFFICER OF OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP ABILITY.

4. IMMEDIATELY UPON DEPARTURE OF THE VREELAND, I
DISPATCHED LETTERS OF APPRECIATION TO PRESIDENT SIAD
AND DEFENSE MINISTER SAMANTAR AND TOOK THE OCCASION
TO SAY THAT IT IS MY HOPE THAT THE VISIT BY A U.S.
NAVY FRIGATE "WILL BE SEEN AS A FURTHER SIGN OF THE
STRNGTHENING OF RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES."
IN VIEW OF THE SOMALI REACTION TO THE VISIT, AND THANKS
TO THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE VREELAND, I AM CON-
FIDENT THAT IT WILL BE.
LOUGHRAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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